

[No Report.]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 25, 1859.

Read a first and second time, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. ENGLISH, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported the following bill :

A BILL

Regulating the payment of postage on newspapers and periodicals, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That it shall be lawful for persons known as regular dealers in
4 newspapers and periodicals to receive by mail such quantities
5 of either as they may require, and to pay the postage thereon
6 as they may be received, at the same rates as regular sub-
7 scribers to such publications.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That maps, engrav-
2 ings, lithographs or photograph prints on rollers shall be
3 charged with postage by the weight of the package, at the
4 rate of one cent an ounce or fraction of an ounce, to any place
5 within the United States.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That every person
2 who shall receive or take any sum of money to be applied to
3 the payment of postage upon any letter to be mailed or to be
4 received from the mail, and shall, with intent to defraud, omit
5 to apply and use the money so received or taken for the pay-
6 ment of such postage ; and every person who shall receive any
7 letter from another to be deposited in any post office, and
8 shall fraudulently omit to deposit the same in such post office ;
9 and every person who shall take from any post office any letter
10 addressed to another person for the purpose of delivering the
11 same to such person, and shall fraudulently omit to deliver the
12 same ; and every person who shall receive letters of others from
13 the post office either fraudulently or by mistake, and shall
14 omit or neglect to return them immediately to the post office,
15 or to the person or persons addressed, shall, upon conviction
16 thereof, be fined not exceeding one hundred dollars, or impris-
17 oned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the
18 court.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the Auditor of
2 the Treasury for the Post Office Department shall have charge
3 of all lands and other property which have been, or shall be,
4 assigned, set off, or conveyed to the United States, in payment
5 of debts due to the Post Office Department, and of all trusts
6 created for the use of the said department in payment of debts

7 due thereto. And the said Auditor shall have power, with
8 the consent of the Postmaster General, to sell, dispose of, and
9 convey, all such lands and other property.